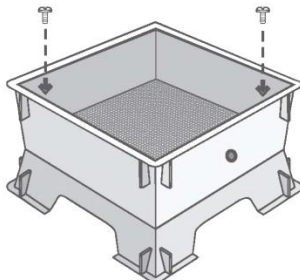


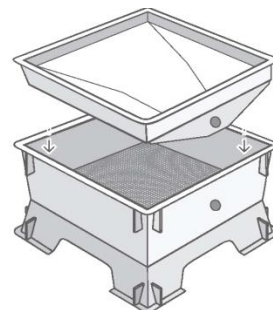
Worm Bin Set Up Instructions



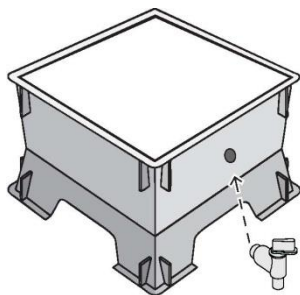
1. Separate the stacking trays from the other parts.



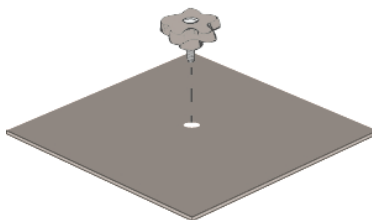
2. Place the holding tray over the base tray and align the grids. Locate the stainless steel bolts and place in opposite corners a few squares from the edge. Twist bolts by hand through aligned grids until secure.



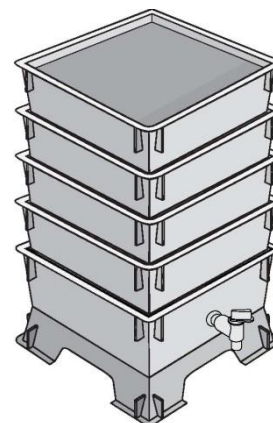
3. Place the collection tray into the holding tray and align the spigot holes.



4. Locate the spigot and the large white plastic nut. Insert the spigot through the holding tray and collection tray. Thread the plastic nut on the spigot inside the collection tray.



5. To assemble the lid, place the knob through the hole in the center of the lid. Screw the nut on the bottom of the lid to secure.



6. As you use your vermicomposter, the remaining trays will be added one by one.



1. Place an empty working tray on top of the collection tray. Line the bottom of the working tray with 3 or 4 sheets of moistened newspaper.
2. To make your tray bedding, soak the block of coir in a container with 3 quarts until it breaks apart and is moist. Wring out excess water and mix the loose coir with a cup of active compost (rich dark dirt, crushed egg shells and/ or sand). You can use compost from your garden bin; however, if that is not available, use decayed leaf litter from beneath your shrubs. If you live in an apartment, be creative and find decayed leaf litter under shrubs in your neighborhood. Then, mix the coir with the shredded paper included with your vermicomposter.
3. Spread freshly mixed bedding (moistened coir and shredded paper) on top of the newspaper in the working tray.

It is important to have your vermicomposter and the bedding ready to receive worms as soon as they arrive.

Adding Food

4. Place 2 handfuls of food scraps in one corner of the working tray on top of the bedding. Cover food and fill the tray with 2-3 inches of dry shredded newspaper. Then, cover the shredded paper with 3 or 4 full sheets of moist newspaper. Place the lid over the material in the working tray. Set aside the remaining trays for future use. Your vermicomposter is now ready for your worms to arrive.
5. In most cases, worms are not included when you purchase your vermicomposter. When purchasing worms separately, make sure you buy the proper variety and enough quantity for a healthy population in your vermicomposter. **Make sure you purchase the red wiggler, also known as *Eisenia fetida*.** You can start with as few as a half pound of worms (approximately 500 worms), however, a full pound of worms will work even better if you really want to jump start your vermicomposter.

Adding Worms

6. To add the worms, remove the worms and special bedding material from the package they arrived in. Next, remove the lid of your vermicomposter and lift the top layer of moist newspaper in the working tray. Gently place the worms on the prepared bedding in the working tray.

Worms can become stressed during shipment. They may take a week or so to adapt to their new environment. Leave a light on at night to encourage them to burrow in their new home. A common mistake is to overfeed your worms when you start using your vermicomposter. **Be patient.** Once the worms are in place, re-lay the newspaper and replace the lid.